

## BLACKIE GETS ON OLD SIXTH'S ROLL BY CAPTURING 100

Runner Numbered Among  
Regiment's Heroes of  
Century's War

### GOES OUT TO DRAW FIRE

Germans Walk from Fog Around  
Him by Scores and Surrender  
—Souvenirs Come Fast

So large a part of our army was born of that lingering crisis known as the "present emergency" that we are wont to forget how ancient are the scars some of our regiments bear into the battles of 1918. The old Sixth Infantry, for instance, created back in 1798 when the wobbly young republic across the sea thought it might have to tackle France, has, after a continuous history of 120 years, taken a hand in a fight that is freeing that same France of the German invader.

The gleaming, many-ringed staff of its regimental colors tell of 1812 and Antietam, of the Seminole War and the Philippines, of Pekin and Mexico—of two ventures into Mexico, indeed, once when a lieutenant of the Sixth, after the fall of Chapultepec, scaled the walls of Mexico City, and again when, limbering up for bigger business later on, the Sixth served as spearhead for the Pershing punitive expedition that went after a half-forgotten somebody or other named Villa.

During the greater part of the month just past, through mud and fog and wire and underbrush, up ugly cliffs and through swirling smoke, the Sixth has been backing its way stubbornly across the heart of Argonne, abetted by a regiment which, after several vain attempts to take the seemingly impossible Bois de Rappees, heard a voice saying: "Take it," and took it.

Blackie of the Sixth  
And when this new chapter in the annals of the Sixth Infantry comes to be written for the musty archives, there will have to be set aside a page for a small, grinning, unpretentious soldier called Blackie and known (to the company) as Private First Class Ashley Black of Clarke, Ia. For to Blackie, heading an assaulting wave of five, fell the honor of roping in the greater part of the prisoners accredited to his regiment during the last engagement.

Blackie is a runner. His captain says that at Trappelle, he was the only man and again at St. Mihiel, when no one else could get a message through, Blackie could; that when every one else (himself included) regarded a path as impassable, Blackie would travel it, unscathed. There are a good many runners like Blackie in the A.E.F. When it is all over, it will be something to be able to say: "I was a runner with Pershing in France."

Well, Blackie and Bugler Andrew Dagnel, of New York, were the runners tagging after the commander of Company when he found himself marooned in an advance shell hole.

It was not much of a refuge at that, and all about the landscape was in convulsions. Somewhere in the scattered wood patches just over the crest of the hogback machine guns were hidden and very busy. Some one, the captain thought, was going to go over, draw their fire, locate them, and report back their whereabouts.

#### Into the Fog

"Come on," said Blackie, nonchalantly, and off he went. As he vanished into the fog, his pistol at his hip, his hand suggestively, he was the only Indian file, by the bugler and the three strays from the third battalion. Forty minutes later he reported back to the captain, who, engrossed in the pleasant task of killing the gun crew of a nearby 77, had forgotten all about Blackie. "Oh, yes, those machine guns. Where are they?"

"Well," said Blackie, "those there, now, machine guns, there was four of them. I took them. And—and I took some prisoners. About 200, I reckon." As matter of fact, his prisoners numbered not quite a hundred, but he was experiencing one of his rare moments of exaltation.

That is not altogether surprising. With his assaulting wave of five, not echeloned in depth at all, Blackie had gone over the crest looking for trouble. All five fired steadily as they ran, and when they were within 50 yards of the woods the answering fire ceased.

Then out of the woods came 40 Boches, squealing in a most ingratiating manner. They fairly flung themselves on the startled five, falling to their knees, embracing the indignant legs of their captors. The woods and the all-encircling wall of fog seemed to leak Germans, and within ten minutes the total of captives was 60.

#### Bugler Gets Excited

It was too much for the bugler. He lost his head. Brandishing his only weapon, a 45—buglers are not supposed to fight, anyway—he prodded stomach after stomach, shouting, "Souvenir, souvenir!" the while, in a compelling voice which invoked a torrent of felled glasses, lucers, watches and other military.

Later he lost them all, but for a little time he had more souvenirs than any man in the A.E.F. One of the third battalion men rather fancied a spyglass that was really half of a broken pair. Zeiss glasses.

"If I get bumped off," he confided to Blackie, "you'd better cop this. It's a dinger." Blackie assigned another of the third battalion men to escort the prisoners to the rear, but held on to one prisoner as a guide to the machine gun nests.

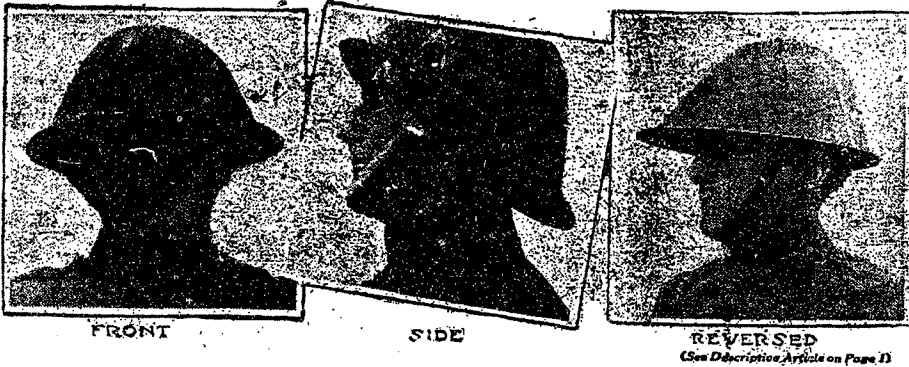
"Put-out-put-out too sweet," he said, and, rather reluctantly, the German started to lead the way.

On the way a knot of 25 pacifically-inclined Boches emerged suddenly from the fog. This was too much. The assaulting wave was now only four, and Blackie could not keep up his effectiveness if he had to furnish another prisoner detail. He pointed to the rear, and in a terrible voice shouted, "Allez!" The 25 took the hint and trotted off toward America.

Just then the accuracy of the reconnoitering was evidenced by a blast of machine gun fire straight ahead. It killed one of them—the third battalion boy with the spy glass. At this, the German guide gave one wistful glance after the retreating mass of prisoners and joined them at full speed.

"I reckon," said Blackie, with a twinge of conscience, "I'd better report to the captain."

## THE NEW LIBERTY BELL HELMET



### CANDY LEADS ALL AMONG IDEAL XMAS BOX SUGGESTIONS

Cake, the Sweeter the Better,  
Also Gets Prominent  
Place

#### PHOTOGRAPHS IN DEMAND

Odds and Ends Favored to Fill Up  
Any Air Space That Happens  
to Be Left Over

#### THE IDEAL CHRISTMAS PACKAGE

Hard candy, preferably chocolate coated caramels, or home-made product such as fudge.

Cake, preferably fruit cake or equivalent in hard, sweet cookies. Photographs of members of family and friends.

If any space is left, rest of package may be filled with O.D. thread, brown buttons, bachelor's buttons, safety pins, and as much other similar material as can be crowded in. Razor blades if desired. No smokes.

You would think the Q.M. hadn't a single grain of sugar in all France. You would think that the chocolate supply was an exacting world had been obliterated, despite the feeling of the great Bulgarian chocolate deposits and the liberation of the Turkish bonbon mines in Asia Minor. You would think all the sweetness had gone out of the A.E.F.—out of its kitchens and its canteens, that is, not out of its disposition.

Because every one wants candy, preferable hard candy, preferable hard chocolate candy. Next to that everybody wants cake, the sweeter the better. Next to that, perhaps ahead of that, a whole lot of people want both.

As proof of the fact that every one wants candy, we have the letters submitted in the Ideal Christmas Package campaign. Added to that we have the results of personal canvasses. There is only one answer. To top it off, we have the following personal testimony from a Field Artillery lieutenant:

#### Only One Answer

On this little matter of Christmas boxes, why did everybody when there is only one answer?

About a week ago I censured the company mail just after those Christmas slips were issued. Seventy-five letters containing these slips went through the post office, every one, without exception, and nothing but candy was put in the box but chocolate candy.

I know that every officer in the regiment asked for exactly the same thing, with the favorite request being that the box be poured full of home made fudge. Why ask for razor blades when you can buy them for a nickel? The same thing goes for handkerchiefs and needles and such stuff, and also jam, and as for trouser buttons, you can cut them off your old uniform.

Cigarette lighters you can buy, with yards of punk at the nearest little French town. There are just three things that every one wants over here and can't possibly get, and they are real candy, rye whiskey and ice cream. We have to rule out the last; the second might not carry and besides it's a shame to use up the home stock when we can get a fairly good substitute over here. There is really only one thing left, isn't there? Why camouflage it for the sake of starting an argument?

Cake and Photographs

Candy it is, then. So many other letters or interviews have specified cake in addition, however, that it has to be included in any list of necessities. Then, too, it is better to give them too many things to select from than too few.

Photographs of members of the family and friends have been almost universally specified. They will pack flat and, if they are properly wrapped, there will be no danger of Uncle Wilbur's face being wiped out by a smudge of chocolate or a misplaced raisin.

The sewing materials are included in the ideal list in order to take up the extra air space that will probably be left over for how tightly the package is packed. It is the easiest thing in the world to slip a couple of safety pins between a couple of pieces of candy—safety pins being far less dangerous than needles when so slipped—and a safety pin can do wonders with a pair of number nine pants on a number three man.

The list given at the head of the column will be cable home for the guidance of intending gift senders who don't quite know what to send and haven't been tipped off. It will not, is hoped, gumshoe the plans of any man in the A.E.F. who has carefully tabulated and told the world exactly what he wants in his particular nine by four by three.

#### RECORDS GO AT WEST POINT

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] AMERICA, Nov. 7.—West Point broke a few little records of its own on its graduation day, November 1. For the first time in history it graduated two classes simultaneously, 1920 and 1921. That made four classes graduated within a year. The 1920 class had 226 members and the 1921 class 283.

Assistant Secretary of War Crowell promises to have all the graduates in France within four months. About 1,200 new cadets are expected at the Academy within ten days.

### Y.M. CANTEN PLAN TO KEEP SUPPLIES CLOSE UP TO LINE

Old Divisional System Sub-ordinated to Permanent  
Supply Stations

#### 100 NEW ROLLING KITCHENS

No Charge Zone Limits to Be De-termined as Heretofore by  
Conditions in Sectors

In an effort to keep troops at the front—even those in the most advanced trenches—constantly supplied with chocolate, biscuits, cigars, cigarettes and other canteen staples, the Y.M.C.A. is reorganizing its entire distribution plan for advanced areas.

The old system under which from 30 to 40 Y.M.C.A. workers, with many motor trucks, were attached to each division and were obliged to stay with the division no matter how fast or how often or how far it moved—each move disrupting the facilities the division workers had arranged for getting up supplies—has been abandoned.

Under the reorganized plan, permanent canteen supply bases will be established in a chain of towns within five or ten miles of each American front, and these bases will be in charge of a permanent staff of workers.

About One to a Regiment  
Then, instead of 30 or 40 men and separate transportation facilities for each division, there will be 12 to 16 workers with each division—roughly speaking, one for each regiment, with extra men for certain special branches, such as Signal Corps and Artillery groups.

Distribution routes will be covered daily by motor cars starting from the Y.M.C.A. advanced bases, and the regimental workers will know where and at what times their supplies will arrive. The regimental workers, freed from the responsibility of long back area transportation, will give their whole time to distributing the supplies rapidly among their customers.

Ration carts will haul up canteen supplies, so that the old and common occurrence of a group of Y.M.C.A. workers attached to a division finding themselves cut off from supplies will be made less likely.

Kitchens of Two Kinds  
To make doubly sure that the supplies go to the very front lines, and to give hot chocolate and coffee to tired troops at a time when stimulants are most needed, 100 new rolling kitchens are being provided. These will be operated in addition to the 100 portable hot chocolate kitchens now in use—kitchens which are not mounted on wheels, but must be packed about on motor cars.

Hot drinks, biscuits and other supplies will be distributed without charge in the actual fighting zone, following the present policy, the boundary line between the no-charge zone and the areas where charges are made depending upon conditions. That is, on a quiet front cigarettes and chocolate would be sold within a short distance of the front line, while during a battle these things might be given away many miles behind.

In addition to the chain of advanced bases—those very close to the front—there will be main bases with large warehouses at the Army railheads. These railroad bases will supply the advanced stations by motor transport.

### ALMOST A BILLION OVER LOAN QUOTA

Subscribers May Reach 22-000,000, or One to  
Every Family

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] AMERICA, Nov. 7.—The total of the Fourth Liberty Loan is nearly a billion over the six billion quota. The full amount of subscriptions is \$6,866,416,300, with over 21,000,000 subscribers, and the huge number still to be counted may bring the number to nearly 22,000,000. This means one subscriber to every five of the population, or a subscriber for every family as the average family is reckoned in the Federal census. This result was reached despite the unacted revenue bill, the influenza epidemic and the European developments.

Boston stands first among Federal Reserve districts in percentage, having 156 per cent of its quota. The Richmond Reserve district is next, with 123 per cent; Philadelphia, 119; Cleveland, 116; Minneapolis, 114; St. Louis, 113; Atlanta, 112; Dallas, 111.7; New York, 111.1; Chicago, 110; Kansas City, 109; San Francisco, 105.

New York raised \$2,000,000,000, going \$200,000,000 over its quota, and Boston went \$132,000,000 over. Philadelphia went \$88,500,000 over. Cleveland, \$96,500,000; Chicago, \$89,600,000; Richmond, \$85,000,000; St. Louis, \$35,000,000; Minneapolis, \$29,500,000; Atlanta, \$23,500,000; Kansas City, \$25,000,000; San Francisco, \$24,000,000, and Dallas, \$15,000,000 over.

The Navy, which had set for itself a quota of \$25,000,000, exceeded that amount by \$20,000,000. Soldiers subscribed \$25,000,000.

#### ANTI-COOTIE SHIRT COMING

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] AMERICA, Nov. 7.—Obscure rumors are abroad in the land to the effect that the anti-cootie shirt is soon to be ordered overseas. This piece of apparel is chemically treated to discourage germs, both regular and transient.

The Army will also be delighted to hear that few changes are contemplated by the retail millinery association in next spring's hats: Medium-sized mushroom sailors, pokes and close-fitting turbans with crowns not too high and turbans more round than elongated are planned. Doughboys will please conform.

"What did you do in the great war?" "I was in the second-hand clothing business." "Salvage depot, you mean?" "No collecting duds..."

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## ANY JOB YOU WANT NEW FEDERAL PLAN

Government All Prepared  
With Program for Dis-abled Soldiers

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] AMERICA, Nov. 7.—The Federal board for vocational training and the United States employment service, collaborating, are now ready to put into operation complete plans for placing disabled returned soldiers at work in American industries.

Vocational advisers in hospitals will deal with each man's problem and representatives of the board will confer with each disabled man before his discharge from hospital and will assist him in obtaining employment in any occupation he desires. Or he may receive training at Government expense for either his old or a new occupation in which, in the board's opinion, he is likely to become proficient.

The principle of the scheme is to assist men toward occupations that most interest them on the one hand, and for which they are best suited on the other.

Five steps in the work are contemplated: First, the election, by the man, of his course of training; second, preliminary training to fit him for his definite occupation or business; third, probationary period of employment; fourth, placing him in, suitable employment, and, fifth, follow-up work to safeguard his interests.

Training will be given in commerce and industry, transportation, agriculture or the professions. Throughout, the Government will look after him in every possible way until he is safely re-established in regular life.

#### PRINCETON PAPERS SUSPENDED

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] AMERICA, Nov. 7.—All five undergraduate publications at Princeton University have suspended publication for the duration of the war. This means that the Daily Princetonian has quit for the first time in its history. The Nassau Literary Magazine, established in 1842, has done likewise, and the grinning Princeton Tiger has also drawn in his claws until the Prussian Eagle turns up his.

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